

more Shatabdi Express or a few more superfast trains between Chandigarh and Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Running of Trains on Un-economic Routes

5332. SHRI RAJABHAU THAKRE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the trains are being run on the un-economic routes in the different regions of the country.

(b) if so, the norms of economic and un-economic routes;

(c) whether there is any policy for running of trains on economic and un-economic routes in the country in the same ratio; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Trains are run on demand irrespective of the fact whether the route is economic or un-economic.

(b) The railway lines whose gross earnings are less than the total working expenses calculated on the marginal cost principle or whose net earnings (arrived at after meeting the working expenses are not sufficient to meet the prescribed dividend liability on the capital invested on them are treated as uneconomic and the remaining lines are treated as economic.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Survey for Edathua-Thiruvalla Rail Line

5333. SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allocated funds for conducting survey for Thakazhy-Edathua-Thiruvalla Railway line during last year's Railway Budget;

(b) if so, whether despite allocations for the above survey, nothing has been done by his Ministry;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct survey of the said railway line; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be

conducted and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. Rs.3 lakhs had been provided in 1996-97 out of the total cost of Rs. 6 lakhs.

(b) to (d) The balance allocation have been made in 1997-98 and the survey would be completed in the current financial year.

[Translation]

Introduction of Train between Bulandshehar and Lucknow

5334. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to run a train from Bulandshehar to Lucknow;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any the request in this regard during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) and (c) Some representations have been received in this regard including from Shri S. P. Gautam, Shri Naunihal Singh, Shri Chhatarpal Singh and Shri Ashok Pradhan, MPs.

(d) Examined, but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Pending Projects

5335. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the projects of National Capital Territory of Delhi relating his Ministry are pending with the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof, project-wise and since when these are pending/under consideration;

(c) the estimated cost thereof;

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be sanctioned;

(e) the reasons for the delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) At present no project of National Capital Territory of Delhi is pending for approval of this Ministry.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.